

Message Text

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67

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

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R 151057Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3238

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 9834

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR TH TW

SUBJECT: THAI/GROC RELATIONS -- NEW CHIEF OF THE THAI INTERNATIONAL
OFFICE IN TAIPEI

REF: BANGKOK 2166

1. MONTRI CHALICHAN (JALICHANDRA), CHIEF OF THE TREATY
DIVISION, TREATY AND LEGAL DEPARTMENT, MFA, TOLD AN
EMBASSY OFFICER APRIL 15 THAT HE HAS BEEN SELECTED TO
HEAD THE THAI INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES OFFICE IN TAIPEI.
MONTRI EMPHASIZED THAT THE ASSIGNMENT REMAINS UNOFFICIAL
UNTIL HE RECEIVES IT IN WRITING.

2. IN SPECULATING ON WHEN HE MIGHT TAKE UP HIS POST
(PROBABLY IN TWO OR THREE MONTHS), MONTRI MENTIONED
THAT ONE OF THE REMAINING BUREAUCRATIC WRINKLES WAS HOW TO COMPEN-
SATE HIM FOR THE GROC INCOME TAXES HE WILL HAVE TO PAY IN TAIWAN.
HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT ONE OF THE STIPULATIONS OF RTG
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE PRC WAS THE ABROGATION OF
ALL BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH TAIWAN. THEREFORE, IT
WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO NEGOTIATE A RECIPROCAL WAIVER
OF INCOME TAXES IN BANGKOK AND TAIPEI. MONTRI EXPRESSED
IGNORANCE ON HOW THAI INTERNATIONAL AND CHINA AIRLINES
MANAGED TO OPERATE BETWEEN THE TWO CAPITALS IN THE
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ABSENCE OF A BILATERAL AIR AGREEMENT.

3. IN COMMENTING ON THE IRONY OF SENDING THE CHIEF OF THE TREATY DIVISION TO A COUNTRY WITH WHICH THAILAND HAD NO BILATERAL AGREEMENTS, MONTRI THEORIZED THAT HIS APPOINTMENT WAS ON A STRICT QUID PRO QUO BASIS IN RETURN FOR THE ASSIGNMENT TO BANGKOK OF SHEN KO CH'IN, WHO HAD BEEN CHIEF OF TAIWAN'S TREATY DIVISION.

4. COMMENT: MONTRI'S ASSIGNMENT WILL PUT IN PLACE THE LAST MAJOR MISSING PIECE IN THAI/GROC RELATIONS.
WHITEHOUSE

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